



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

July 14, 2005

News Release

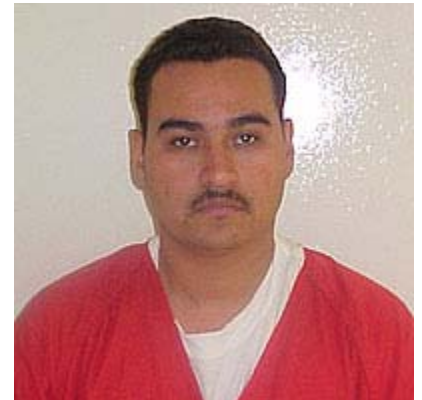
ICE AND CBP TEAM UP TO ARREST AND REPATRIATE FORMER POLICE OFFICER FROM MEXICO

Fugitive wanted for his alleged involvement in crimes from kidnapping to drug trafficking

SAN ANTONIO — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced here today that a former police officer for Tamaulipas, Mexico was turned over to the Federal Attorney General of Mexico.

Mexican authorities accuse Carlos Humberto Escobar-Martinez, 26, of allegedly committing a string of violent crimes in Mexico ranging from kidnapping to drug trafficking.

Escobar-Martinez applied for admission into the United States Sunday at the Pharr Port of Entry. During routine inspection, CBP officers discovered that he was wanted for questioning by Mexican authorities. Mexico's Office of the Federal Attorney General had later requested the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to repatriate Escobar-Martinez back to Mexico.



Escobar-Martinez was denied admission into the United States and was transported to the Port Isabel Detention Center in Port Isabel, Texas, where he was detained pending his removal.

"International criminals seeking to hide in our country to avoid facing justice should be forewarned that our Homeland Security officers routinely work with all varieties of local, state, federal and international law enforcement agencies to help protect our country," said Alonzo Pena, special agent-in-charge for the ICE San Antonio office. "Vigilance and teamwork are key in the day-to-day enforcement activity in making certain the American public is safe."

"Our primary mission in Detention and Removal Operations is to locate, detain and remove aliens who don't belong in this country, like Escobar-Martinez," said Marc J. Moore, field office director for the ICE Detention and Removal Operations office in San Antonio. "Deporting fugitives of foreign countries before they have a chance to commit crimes here is a good example of our partnership with other law enforcement agencies."

“U.S. Customs and Border Protection serves as America’s front line, defending the border at the ports of entry and between the ports of entry,” said Gurdit Dhillon, director of field operations for CBP’s Laredo Field Office. “By remaining vigilant and working in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies, we continue to prevent the entry of persons who may represent a danger to public safety.”

ICE worked with representatives from the Mexican Attorney General’s office and CBP to finalize arrangements for Escobar-Martinez’ repatriation.

Both ICE and CBP are agencies under the U.S Department of Homeland Security.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.